

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**** PRESS CONFERENCE ADVISORY – WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 9:30 A.M. ****

BIPARTISAN COALITION TO ANNOUNCE LEGISLATION THAT WILL ADDRESS RISING FUEL PRICES

WASHINGTON, D.C. – A bipartisan coalition of House Members, led by **Science Committee Chairman Sherwood Boehlert** (R-NY) and **Representative Ed Markey** (D-MA), will hold a press conference tomorrow to announce the introduction of legislation that will help provide consumers relief at the gas pump by requiring automakers to increase the fuel efficiency of the vehicles they produce.

The legislation would raise Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) standards from a current average of 24 miles per gallon (MPG) to 33 MPG by 2016. According to the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), the technology already exists to achieve even greater mileage than is mandated in the bill without sacrificing vehicle features or safety. The NAS estimates significant fuel savings from an increase in CAFE standards. Even after accounting for the cost of the new technologies, it is estimated that the average sport utility vehicle, pickup or minivan owner would save more than \$2000 over the life of the vehicle; car owners would save at least \$1000. And that is assuming gasoline costs only \$2.00 per gallon!

The original cosponsors of the Boehlert-Markey bill include Representatives **Todd Platts** (R-PA), **John Lewis** (D-GA), **Mark Kirk** (R-IL), **Robert Menendez** (D-NJ), **Wayne Gilchrest** (R-MD), **Anna Eshoo** (D-CA), **Chris Shays** (R-CT), **Brad Miller** (D-NC), **Jim Leach** (R-IA), **John Olver** (D-MA), **Jim Gerlach** (R-PA), **Dennis Cardoza** (D-CA), **Nancy Johnson** (R-CT), and **Roscoe Bartlett** (R-MD).

WHAT:	Press conference announcing the introduction of bipartisan legislation to raise CAFE standards
WHEN:	Wednesday, September 14, 2005 at 9:30 a.m.
WHERE:	2318 Rayburn House Office Building (The press conference will be webcast live at www.house.gov/science)